

November 17, 2004

Greetings to all Members!

Technocracy is definitely in a rebuilding period. We are attracting and signing up new members every week, many are already volunteering their time on productive projects. Computer technologist Glenn Wehmeyer, is in the process of initiating new projects on weekend visits with George Wright at CHQ. Glenn is one new member who is already up to speed in actively participating at many levels. We also have a new presence in Wisconsin. Joe De Jong, of Hudson, WI is our new organizer in that area. High in the Continental Divide we have Bansi Buckley in Boulder, Colorado now in our ranks. Mr. Buckley already has influenced other people enough that they have asked for more information from CHQ. We surely welcome their spirit and effort.

It just so happens that long time member Bill DesJardines was in the last stages of producing an update reprint of the Technocracy Technological Continental Design (TTCD). Bill met Glenn Wehmeyer via his Technocracy web page and the two have created a computer file capable of printing a beautiful new full color addition using the latest in laser printing equipment technology.

We have been told that in the growth years of Technocracy, Howard Scott would reach out to able members for funds to enable our organization to produce high quality magazines and more. Technocracy does not accept money from any Price System operation. We are only supported by our members. CHQ is placing this in the newsletter to remind those members who are fortunate and able that CHQ is in need of a computer operated ink jet printing system. We have several choices which we have looked at that financially, can be considered. Technocracy's message should be presented in the most affordable technological format to attract readers, and this demands upgrading our equipment. We do need support in this effort.

As an example of this, Walt Fryers composed and designed the recent Peak Oil flyer. Glenn Wehmeyer was contacted by George Wright to upgrade the graphics, which he did in record time. CHQ is doing the best we can with what we have and so are other members in the field. Members Fern McFarlane and Ron Miller have been placing ads in local newspapers and have been getting responses. Ron even places copies of the North American Technocrat on cooperative newsstands. Just think if the next edition was in full four-color display. Catch the eye, capture a reader?

Some interesting trends and events in the news. The Seattle Times...for only the second time in history, stated that the United States in 2002 imported more agricultural products than it exported. A \$70 million deficit that year widened to \$800 million in 2003, according to the Commerce Department.

Seattle P.I. .... Container cargo hit a record in September: The port of Seattle yesterday (11/3/04) reported that containerized cargo increased a record 33.3 percent for September, compared with the same month last year.

The port's terminals moved 161,620 20-foot-equivalent units in September, and that number

was the highest since the seaport started handling containers in the 1960s, according to a spokesman.

Earlier last month one of our local newspapers reported that over the next 10 years at least an additional 66,000 new truck drivers will be needed nationwide. Locally, there is immediate need for long hall drivers. The local truck driving schools are pumping them out but most drop out due to the pressures of long hall driving. These are some of the best paying jobs still available. New long hall drivers begin at \$35,000 the first year, rising quickly with experience and bonuses up to \$70,000 a year. As Technocrats, we know that trucking items over long distances is a very wasteful method energy wise, and about to become a financial nightmare as well. Because we have neglected our rail lines to the extreme, trucking has dominated. This will have to change when the price of fuel skyrockets. Here is another prime example of profiteering over function.

Other jobs are being exported: Stephanie Harkness, Chief executive of Pacific Plastics & Engineering in Soquel, Calif. Quote "There's all this scare stuff about the falling dollar, but it's allowing us to compete in the marketplace more effectively."

Eighteen months ago, Pacific Plastics built a plant in Bangalore, India. It now employs 48 people there and 86 in Soquel. ***"Our customers can save 50% when we produce molds for them in India rather than here," Harkness said. "My ideal scenario is not to have a plant in California at all."***

She is in good company with the reelection of the Bush Team. Tax cuts for the wealthy and welfare for big business the bigger the better the tax breaks.

In the early years of Technocracy, Howard Scott would walk out and greet his audience with a salute and a "hello suckers:" he was warmly greeted with a "hello sucker" in return because they knew they had all been played as such.

Once again we are all being played as "suckers" but obviously from the reelection of the Bushies, *false* moral values rate higher than social welfare.

We Technocrats are more aware of the future that is in store for us and we need to increase our participation in getting our message out.

One tool that is in the process of being improved is our web page [www.Technocracyinc.org](http://www.Technocracyinc.org)

Bill DesJardines and Glenn Wehmeyer will have a new and improved version up and running before the next issue of the North American Technocrat. We will update this report in next month's newsletter.

Paul Cordsmeyer, CHQ Technocracy Inc.

Postscript:

All members are encouraged to obtain addresses for local libraries and their branches, if any. We have members who donate to a fund to pay for subscriptions to the North American Technocrat.

November 15, 2004 The Wall Street Journal

(Content edited, due to length of article.) Just as U.S. manufacturers were getting used to a welcome surge in the sector's growth, the momentum suddenly has fallen off, fueling caution....

While the economy as a whole notched up a sizable increase of 337,000 jobs in October-an increase skewed higher by the recovery from hurricanes in August and September and other factors-manufacturers shed 5,000 jobs. Since manufacturing accounts for about 16% of the gross domestic product and 11% of nonfarm employment, what happens in the sector has an impact on the broader economy....

Manufacturers "are staring at increased costs, says Ken Goldstein, an economist for the Conference board, a business-research organization in New York. "They don't see a return to pricing power." The sector not only faces higher than-expected costs for energy and raw materials but is feeling the headwinds of slowing growth in the larger economy.

Near Atlanta, at hardware maker Kason Industries Inc., Burl Finkelstein points out a stainless-steel stove leg that has a price tag of "\$7.35" from 20 yrs ago. Today it sells for about \$3.50 as the pressure to beat rivals on price has offset two decades of inflation and more-recent rising costs. "We still make money on it," says Mr. Finkelstein, Kason's vice president of engineering, "but it gets harder all the time."

Mr. Finkelstein found one way to avoid higher costs is by doing more assembly work with finished parts made elsewhere rather than making them itself with costly raw materials. As recently as two years ago, Kason, which has 200 employees, imported only about 10% of its components for walk-in freezers. But today, the company imports nearly half these items.

"We've had to make some tough choices lately, whether to continue to make things here," he says. In many cases, Kason is buying metal parts from China for less than the cost of the material in the U.S. "We could employ 100 more people than we do," says Mr. Finkelstein, "if we made everything in-house like we used to."

Many manufacturers, when axing jobs, point to the price squeeze they face. Tampa-based Anchor Glass Container Corp. last week announced it would close its beer-bottle factory in Connellsville, Pa, cutting 300 jobs, on the same day the company said its results were being pressured by higher raw-material costs and freight charges that couldn't be passed on to customers.

"We're seeing large projects being talked about, but deferred," says James Gelly chief financial officer for Rockwell Automation Inc. In past recoveries, Rockwell customers would splurge on capacity expansions at this point in business cycles, he says. But this time they're investing in automation to squeeze incremental use out of their existing plants.

Mr. Gelly says much more of the company's automation business is aimed at improving existing equipment, rather than building new large-scale projects, and that reflects caution in the upper ranks of management. "The repair, fix-it-up, run-it-better kind of spending can be approved by a plant manager out of normal spending, but the big projects require central approval," he says.

## W.Va. Coal is No. 1 in Dollar Terms: From 1991 to 2001, No Other Industry Grew As Rapidly As Mining

Nov 13 - Charleston Daily Mail

### DAILY MAIL BUSINESS EDITOR

When a consultant from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology examined West Virginia's economy, he was struck by the significant role played by energy-related businesses.

"The industries in the energy cluster account for nearly 7 percent of all jobs in the state, 11 percent of the total wage bill, and more than 17 percent of the Gross State Product," said Richard Lester, director of MIT's Industrial Performance Center.

"The energy cluster in West Virginia employs more than 45,000 people, and is the largest cluster in the state," he said. "The energy cluster has long been dominated by coal mining, and even today, after decades of labor force reductions, the mining industry employs about 17,000 workers."

The coal industry is frequently portrayed as being in decline, "yet in real dollar terms output increased by nearly 70 percent between 1991 and 2001," Lester said. "No other major industry in the grew as fast during that period. Today West Virginia is the nation's largest coal producer in dollar terms."

The outlook for the coal industry is uncertain, Lester said. Nevertheless, the state should focus attention on ways to promote related industries, such as upgrading the coal-to-electricity conversion process and converting coal to liquid and gaseous fuels.

Important opportunities for West Virginia are likely to arise in coal-related areas during the coming decades, Lester said. "Pressures to reduce the environmental impacts of coal extraction and use will increase throughout the world, and will create major new markets for specialized equipment, technology, information and services."

Coal is the dominant energy resource in China today and it is projected that there will be rapid growth in the demand for electricity in China, Lester said. "China will be the world's largest market for coal-related equipment, services, supplies and information for at least the next 20 years," he said.

The problem unstated in this post is this... The state of Virginia must help Corporations to be ever more efficient in the rapid depletion of a finite resource (coal) for economic prosperity.

To an economist the creation of wealth is the only reason for a physical resource. In all Price Systems the goal is to exhaust any and all vast energy, chemical and material resources as quickly as is possible. Dr. Albert Bartlett of the U. of Denver calls this,,,"strength through exhaustion."

Anyone wanting to order a copy of his 1 hr. 10 min. vitally informative presentation on the Exponential Function, titled "Arithmetic, Energy and Population", contact CHQ and I will send you the information. Paul Cordsmeyer

